

Strychnos potatorum Linn.f.

Family : Loganiaceae

Parts Used : Seed

Vernacular Names

English : Clearing nut tree

Malayalam : Thettamparal

Hindi : Nirmali

Sanskrit : Tikta-phala

Kannada : Andugu

Tamil : Akkolam

Telugu : Andugu



Botany: A medium sized, deciduous, glabrous tree about 12 m in height with cracked and scaly black bark and irregularly fluted trunk.

• **Leaves:** Simple, opposite, elliptic, acute, chartaceous, upto 15 cm long and 6.25 cm broad. Transverse nerves about 4 pairs joining the second pair of ribs to the mid rib, glabrous, shining.

• **Flowers :** White, fragrant, axillary cymes; fruits ovoid or globose, glabrous berries, black when ripe.

• **Seeds:** One or two, yellow, circular, not much compressed, 8 mm in diameter, shining with short appressed silky hairs.

Properties: The seeds are sweet, bitter, astringent, refrigerant, demulcent, emetic, diuretic, digestive, anthelmintic, aphrodisiac, ophthalmic, appetizer, alexiteric, tonic and water purifier.

Uses: Hepatopathy, nephropathy, gonorrhoea, leucorrhoea, gastropathy, bronchitis, chronic diarrhea, and dysentery, strangury, renal and vesical calculi, diabetes, burning sensations, dipsia, conjunctivitis, scleritis, ulcers and other eye diseases.

